

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/080,823

Examiner

Phallaka Kik

Applicant(s)

HINO ET AL.

Art Unit

2825

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.


1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment after final filed on 6/7/2004 and priority documents filed on 4/26/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 10-13 and 15-20, wherein claims 8-9, 14 have been cancelled and claims 10-19, 11-13, 20 have been renumbered as 8-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10/31/03 & 2/21/02 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
**LEIGH M. GARBOWSKI**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action responds to Applicant's amendment after final filed on 6/7/2004 and priority documents filed on 4/26/2004. Claims 1-7,10-13,15-20 are pending, wherein claims 8-9,14 have been cancelled and claims 1,4,6,10,13,15-19 are amended. Claims 1-7,10-13,15-20 have been examined and are allowed.

#### *Priority*

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file. Since the Office somehow lost the original priority documents filed on 4/4/2002 as evidenced by Applicant's showings, the faxed transmission received on 4/26/2004 are herein considered to fulfill the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).

#### *Allowable Subject Matter*

3. **Claims 1-7,10-13,15-20** are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per **claims 1-7,10-13,15-20**, the independent claims 1,10,18,19, from which the respective claims depend, now recite the pattern layout method of a semiconductor chip comprising the inventive step, as previously indicated in the Office Action mailed on 3/15/2004, of forming a dummy pattern adjacent to the output bit group and having a shape equivalent to the output region, as part of the drivers arrangements (e.g., anode and cathode drivers) for driving the display, as claimed, which the prior arts made of record failed to teach or suggest. Accordingly, the claimed invention is novel and unobvious over the prior arts made of record.

***Conclusion***

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phallaka Kik whose telephone number is 571-272-1895. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew S. Smith can be reached on 571-272-1907. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**or faxed to:**

703-872-9318 (for Before-Final) and 703-872-9319 (for After-Final) for  
formal communications intended for entry,

**Or:**


(571) 273-1895 (for informal or draft communications, please label  
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" and let the examiner know prior to  
faxing).

7. **Applicant should note that effective May 1, 2003, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has a new Commissioner for Patents address for transitioning to the new Office location in Alexandria, VA, wherein correspondence in patent-related matters to organizations reporting to the Commissioner for Patents must now be addressed to:**

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

PK   
June 17, 2004

  
**LEIGH M. GARBOWSKI**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**